

October 6, 2004

Application No.:09/394,712
Examiner:Vickie Kim
Art Unit: 1614
Date:October 05, 2004

Check the suspension listed below which is being requested and supply the information listed for such:

A. Suspension – Awaiting New Reference. Interference Specialists Anthony Caputa, Cecilia Tsang, and/or Michael Woodward must be consulted for the approval to suspend action based on a reference relevant to examination becoming available.

Application No. as Potential Reference: _____

Status of Application: _____

Interference Specialist Approval for Suspension: _____

Previously Suspended On: _____

B. X Suspension – Possible Interference – Office or Applicant Initiated. Interference Specialists Anthony Caputa, Cecilia Tsang, and/or Michael Woodward must be consulted for the approval to suspend action based on a potential interference between pending but unrelated applications. Provide the interfering application numbers below.

Interfering Party Application No.: 09/200,700 now patented, US 6,191,154 B1

Interference Specialist Approval for Suspension: Caputa,Anthony

Previously Suspended On:

C. Suspension - Overlapping Applications by Same Applicant or Owned by Same Applicant (MPEP 709.1 and 2315.01). Suspension of an application based on the outcome of a related application in interference to the same applicant or owned by the same applicant is to be avoided by prosecuting the application to the fullest extent. Such can be accomplished by treating as prior art the counts of the interference for the purpose of making provisional rejections and by insisting on proper lines of division or distinction between the applications. Use form paragraph 23.17 for a rejection based on the count of an interference. In some instances, suspension of action by the Office cannot be avoided (see MPEP 709.01). Interference Specialists Anthony Caputa, Cecilia Tsang, and/or Michael Woodward must be consulted for the approval to suspend action based on the outcome of pending interference using form paragraph 23.18.

Interference Number: _____

Application No. in Interference: _____

October 6, 2004

Interference Specialist Approval for Suspension: _____

Previously Suspended On: _____

D. _____ Suspension – Applicant Petition (37 CFR 1.103 (d), MPEP 709). Any first or subsequent request by applicant to suspend Office action in an application requires a petition and a fee from the applicant, and can only be made in applications, which do **not** have an outstanding office action. The petition must present good and sufficient reasons why the suspension is necessary and must specify a period of suspension not greater than 6 months. **Petitions for suspension of action under 37 CFR 1.103 are decided by the Group Director.** Requires approval by Bill Dixon.

Bill Dixon Approval: _____